[Shri Kahnu Charan Lanka]
us immediately when the refugees will be taken out of Orissa. Thank you.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1989-90

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Finance Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 1989-90 (March 1990).

I. BUDGET (RAILWAYS) 1990-91—GENERAL DISCUSSION

II. RESOLUTION APPROVING RECOMMENDATIONS OF RAILWAYS CONVENTION COMMITTEE, 1989

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Railway Minister.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Madam, I beg to move that we start the general discussion on the Budget (Railways), 1990-91.

I also beg to move:

"That this House approves the recommendations made in paragraphs 10 to 14 contained in the First Report of Railway Convention Committee, 1989, appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to the General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance and General Finance, which was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 1990."

Madam, by a Resolution adopted in the Lok Sabha on 28-12-1989 and concurred in by the Rajya Sabha on 29-12-1989, the Railway Convention Committee, 1989, was constituted on the 6th February, 1990. The Comittee was appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the railway undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in view of the railway finance *vis-a-vis* the general finance and make recommendations thereon for the Eighth Plan period, 1990-95.

The Ministry of Railways have submitted their first interim memorandum requesting the Committee to permit continuance of the financial arrangements between the Railways and the general finance for the year 1990-91 as recommended by the Railway Convention Committee, 1985, and as adopted for the year 1989-90, pending their final recommendations for the Eighth Five Year Plan for which a memoranda to the Committee will be submitted. The Railway Convention Committee, 1989, have considered the interim memoranda and have agreed to the proposal made therein by the Ministry of Railways subject to retrospective adjustments after the final recommendations of the Committee are available in due course.

With these words, Madam, I commend the Resolution for the consideration of the House.

The question was proposed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Resolution moved. Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur to speak on the Railway Budget and the Resolution.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR (Bihar): Madam, I rise to respond to the proposal of the Hon. Railway Minister. The Railways are the key life-line of the country. It provides links and critical support to the commerce, industry and travelling public in this country. This is the first time I am speaking on the Railway Budget, Madam. I think, there are three good reasons for persuading myself to do that.